

the rear end including connection adapted for connection of the frame to a said large baler;
a ground-driven, non-powered wheel rake connected to and moveable between a working
position extended to a raking width laterally from the frame and a stored position raised
from the working position;
an actuator operably connected between the frame and the wheel rake allowing selective
actuation of the wheel rake between working and stored positions;
a suspension operably associated with the wheel rake to allow the wheel rake to move, over a
range, independently of the frame when in the working position, to allow the wheel rake
to follow variations in terrain.

4.

The rake attachment of claim 1 wherein the connection on the front end of the frame
comprises a hitch.

5.

The rake attachment of claim 1 wherein the connection on the front end comprises a hitch
from a said large bale baler.

6.

The rake attachment of claim 1 wherein the connection on the rear-end comprises one or
more frame pieces and bolts.

7.

The rake attachment of claim 6 wherein the frame pieces are adapted to match up with a
large bale baler hitch connection.

8.

AB The rake attachment of claim 1 wherein the wheel rake comprises a wheel rotatably mounted on an arm attached to the frame member, the wheel having a rotational axis, a diameter and a perimeter, the perimeter including a plurality of spaced apart, generally outwardly extending tines.

9.

The rake attachment of claim 8 wherein the rotational axis of the wheel is at an angle from the longitudinal axis of the frame.

13.

AB The rake attachment of claim 9 further comprising a second ground-driven, non-powered wheel rake comprising a wheel rotatably mounted on a second arm attached to the frame.

16.

AB The rake attachment of claim 1 further comprising, in combination, a large bale baler having a pick-up width, wherein the raking width extends laterally outside the pick-up width.

18.

AB The rake attachment of claim 1 wherein the wheel rake comprises two arms extendable out from the frame and a plurality of rake wheels on each arm having planes of rotations at an angle to the longitudinal axis of the frame.

20.

AB The rake attachment of claim 18 further comprising connections between each arm and the frame to raise and lower the rake wheels.

21.

The rake attachment of claim 18 further comprising an adjustable mount between the rake wheels and the arms comprising a component adapted to allow adjustability in raking width and vertical height of the rake wheel.

22.

The rake attachment of claim 18 further comprising a pivot between the frame and the rake wheels to allow the rake wheels to maintain contact with the terrain over variations in the train.

23.

The rake attachment of claim 8 wherein the arm includes a section that can pivot over a range around a pivot pin, the rake wheel being attached on either side of the pivot pin.

24.

The rake attachment of claim 18 further comprising, in combination, a baler, the baler attached to the connection member at the rear end of the frame; the baler having a pick-up width, the raking width extending outside the pick-up width.

25.

A large bale baling apparatus comprising:
a large bale baler having an intake width and a connection member;
a hitch adaptable for connection to a tractor;
an intermediate framework attachable between the hitch and the connection member on the large bale baler;
at least one arm attached at one end to the intermediate framework and extendible from the framework;

at least one raking member operatively attached to the arm, the raking member comprising a ground-driven, non-powered wheel rake;

a suspension member operatively connected between the raking member and the framework to allow independent movement of the raking member relative the framework;

the arm including a mounting member to allow movement of the arm between raised and working positions, the arm and raking member being configured such that when the framework is in operative connection with the hitch and baler and the hitch is connected to the tractor, in the raised position the arm and would not interfere with operation of the baler, allow backing, allow non-baling transport, and allow storage, and in a working position, the raking member extending laterally from the framework outside the intake width of the baler;

an actuator connected to the framework and a said arm adapted to selectively move the arm by remote activation between the raised and working positions.

26.

The apparatus of claim 25 further comprising an implement connected between the hitch and the baler.

27.

The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the implement is a shredder.

28.

The apparatus of claim 25 further in combination with a tractor, which is operatively connected in front of the rake member and baler.

29.

A method of baling comprising:

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in a single pass through a field, baling material through a pick-up width of a baler; while, from behind a motive means, raking material from an area substantially outside the pick-up width of the baler with a non-powered, ground-contacting wheel rake that is independently moveable relative the field to follow the terrain of the field; selectively, by operator actuated control, raising the wheel rake a substantial vertical distance and moving the wheel rake substantially inward to allow unobstructed baling, non-baling transport, storage, or backing.

30.

The method of claim 29 wherein substantially outside the pick-up width of the baler comprises is at least 25% wider than the pickup width.

Please add the following claims:

31.

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A rake attachment for a PTO-driven large bale baler comprising:
a frame of less than approximately six feet in length having a front end and a rear end along a longitudinal axis, and a passageway between said front and rear ends for a PTO shaft;
the front end including a hitch connection adapted for pivotable connection of the frame to a motive means;
the rear end including connection adapted for rigid connection of the frame to a said large baler;
a ground-driven, non-powered wheel rake connected to and moveable between a working position extended to a raking width laterally from the frame and a stored position raised from the working position;

an actuator operably connected between the frame and the wheel rake allowing selective actuation of the wheel rake between working and stored positions;

a suspension operably associated with the wheel rake to allow the wheel rake to move, over a range, independently of the frame when in the working position, to allow the wheel rake to follow variations in terrain;

the frame including a PTO extension shaft rotatably supported in the frame and having a first end operably connectable to a PTO of a motive means, and a second end operably connectable to the baler;

the wheel rake comprising two sets of at least two wheels, each wheel of at least thirty-six inches diameter and attached to the frame and moveable between stored and working positions, each set extendable to a raking width laterally and angularly from the frame on opposite sides of the frame so that in a working position the distance between farthest raking width of both sets of wheels when in working position is at least 50% greater than the intake width of the baler, each wheel of each set slightly overlapping on another;

in a stored position the wheel rake, frame being less than 8 feet wide and the wheels of the wheel rake at least two feet off the ground.

32.

The rake attachment of claim 31 wherein the frame pieces are adapted to match up with a large bale baler hitch connection.

33.

The rake attachment of claim 31 wherein the wheel rake comprises a wheel rotatably mounted on an arm attached to the frame member, the wheel having a rotational axis, a diameter

and a perimeter, the perimeter including a plurality of spaced apart, generally outwardly extending tines.

34.

The rake attachment of claim 33 wherein the rotational axis of the wheel is at an angle from the longitudinal axis of the frame.

35.

A large bale baling apparatus comprising:

a large bale baler having an intake width and a hitch connection member;

a hitch connectable to the hitch connection member of the baler and adaptable for pivotable connection to a tractor;

an intermediate framework attachable between the hitch and the connection member on the large

bale baler, and including a PTO extension shaft supported in the framework to connect a PTO of a tractor with the baler;

first and second sets of at least two non-powered, ground-driven wheel rake wheels operatively attached to the framework by a connection, each wheel having at least a thirty-six inch diameter;

a suspension member operatively connected between the wheels and the framework to allow independent movement of the wheels relative the framework;

the connection allowing movement of the wheels between raised and working positions, in the raised position the wheels would not interfere with operation of the baler, allow backing, allow non-baling transport, and allow storage, and in a working position the wheels extend laterally from the framework outside the intake width of the baler but at an angle to the longitudinal axis of the frame;

an actuator connected to the framework and each said mount adapted to selectively move the wheels by remote activation between the raised and working positions.

36.

The apparatus of claim 35 further in combination with a tractor, which is operatively connected in front of the rake member and baler.

37.

A method of baling comprising:

in a single pass through a field, baling material through a pick-up width of a baler; while, from behind a motive means, raking material from an area substantially outside the pick-up width of the baler with two sets of non-powered, ground-contacting wheel rake, each set comprising two thirty-six inch diameter or greater wheels slightly overlapped in coverage and at an angle to the direction of travel, the sets of wheels being independently moveable relative the field to follow the terrain of the field; selectively, by operator actuated control, raising the wheel rake a substantial vertical distance and moving the wheel rake substantially inward to allow unobstructed baling, non-baling transport, storage, or backing.

38.

The method of claim 37 wherein the pick-up width of the baler is effectively increased at least 50% wider by the raking wheels.
